

## **I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1: (currently amended) A method for treating persons suffering from acute or chronic degenerative conditions or diseases of the eye which comprises administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of a histone deacetylase inhibitor, wherein said histone deacetylase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of suberoylanilide hydroxamic acid (SAHA), MS-275, oxamflatin, trichostatin A, depsipeptides, and suberic bishydroxamate (SBHA).

Claim 2: (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the condition or disease is selected from the group consisting of: glaucoma; dry AMD; RP and other forms of heredodegenerative retinal disease; retinal detachment and tears; macular pucker; ischemia affecting the outer retina; cellular damage associated with diabetic retinopathy and retinal ischemia; damage associated with laser therapy (grid, focal, and panretinal) including photodynamic therapy (PDT); trauma; surgical (retinal translocation, subretinal surgery, or vitrectomy) or light-induced iatrogenic retinopathy; and preservation of retinal transplants.

Claim 3: (original) The method of Claim 2 wherein the condition or disease is dry AMD.

Claim 4: (original) The method of Claim 2 wherein the condition or disease is glaucoma.

Claim 5: (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the histone deacetylase inhibitor is SAHA.